

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-03 HUD-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 FEA-01 AID-05 /082 R

DRAFTED BY IO/SCT:JPTREVITHICK

APPROVED BY IO - DR. MOREY

OES/ENP/EN - DR. KING

IO/CMD - MS. GASTON

HUD - MR. STEGILL

IO/EX/IR - MR. CARROLL

NEA/ARP - MR. LYLE

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R 310004Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KU, UN, UNEP

SUBJECT: UNEP: KUWAITI NOMINATION FOR UNEP POSITION

REF: KUWAIT A-61, 9 JULY 1975

1. POSITION FOR WHICH GOK HAS NOMINATED MR. ABDUL AZIZ AL-HAMDAN (REPORTED REFAIRGRAM) IS THAT OF DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION (IHHSF), WHICH WAS RECOMMENDED BY SECOND SESSION OF UNEP

GOVERNING COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY 29TH SESSION OF UNGA IN DECEMBER 1974. UNEP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAKING THIS APPOINTMENT, WHICH IS NOT SUBJECT TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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APPROVAL BY UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL. ASIDE FROM ONE TIME

DOLS 4 MILLION GRANT FROM UNEP FUND OVER INITIAL FOUR YEAR PERIOD, ALL RESOURCES OF THIS NEW FOUNDATION WILL BE DERIVED FROM VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS. TO DEPT'S KNOWLEDGE, NO COUNTRY HAS YET MADE DEFINITE COMMITMENT TO CONTRIBUTE TO IHHSF.

2. US VOTED AGAINST ESTABLISHMENT OF IHHSF AT 29TH UNGA PRIMARILY ON GROUND THAT ECOSOC AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAD NOT REALISTICALLY ADDRESSED POTENTIAL PROBLEM OF OVERLAPPING AND DUPLICATING UN PROGRAMS IN HOUSING FIELD. WHILE US CONCURRED IN CONSENSUS DECISION AT 3RD SESSION OF GOVERNING COUNCIL ENDORSING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S RECOM-

MENDATIONS ON PROGRAM AND PLAN OF ACTION FOR NEW FOUNDATION, US DOES NOT INTEND PLAY LEADING ROLE IN IMPLEMENTATION OF FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES. FURTHERMORE, DEPT DOES NOT WISH TO TAKE ANY ACTION WHICH APPEARS DEROGATE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAKING APPOINTMENT.

3. ACCORDINGLY, DEPT RELUCTANT PLAY ACTIVE ROLE IN LOBBYING FOR PARTICULAR CANDIDATE TO HEAD UP NEW FOUNDATION. FYI. IT OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT UNEP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN NO HURRY APPOINT HEAD OF FOUNDATION, PREFERING TO LEAVE THIS QUESTION, AS WELL AS STILL UNSETTLED QUESTION CONCERNING LOCATION OF FOUNDATION, FOR LATER DECISION, IN MEANTIME RELYING ON EXISTING UNEP STAFF TO INITIATE FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES. END FYI.

4. IN LIGHT FOREGOING, EMBASSY SHOULD GIVE NON-COMMITTAL RESPONSE TO KUWAITI NOTE. EMBASSY MAY SAY (WHICH IS CASE) THAT MEMBERS OF US DELEGATION TO PREVIOUS SESSION OF UNEP

GOVERNING COUNCIL HAVE FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF MR. HAMDAN'S PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS. WHILE WE PREFER NOT TAKE INITIATIVE IN INTERCEDING WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STRONG IN SUPPORT ANY CANDIDATE FOR SUBJECT POSITION, WE ARE PREPARED RESPOND FAVORABLY CONCERNING MR. HAMDAN'S CANDIDACY IF ASKED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

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